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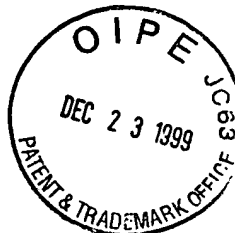
862.2583

PATENT APPLICATION Group 2700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
HITOSHI ONODA, ET AL. ) Examiner: Unassigned #5  
Appln. No.: 09/217,937 ) Group Art Unit: 2712  
Filed: December 22, 1998 )  
For: OPTICAL DEVICE AND ) December 23, 1999  
METHOD FOR SELECTING )  
OBJECT OF FOCUS )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231



SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

REMARKS

Each of the listed documents was recently cited in a European Search Report of a counterpart foreign patent application corresponding to the above-referenced application. The Search Report was issued on November 10, 1999. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed. The documents cited in the Search Report may be pertinent for the

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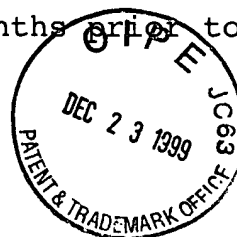
reasons noted therein. Abstracts for Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Nos. 9-127405 and 9-211316 were obtained from a commercial database and are also enclosed herewith.

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

It is hereby stated that each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date hereof.



FORMAL MATTERS

No fee is believed due; however, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

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Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in **Group 2700**  
our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.  
All correspondence should continue to be directed to our  
below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

*Daniel H. Hweck*

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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